



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

SENIOR DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION – P-16
Office of Elementary, Middle, Secondary and Continuing Education
Office of Higher Education

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Mr. Robert Flowers
Manager, Internal Support
Western New York Regional Information Center (Erie 1)
355 Harlem Road
West Seneca, New York 14224

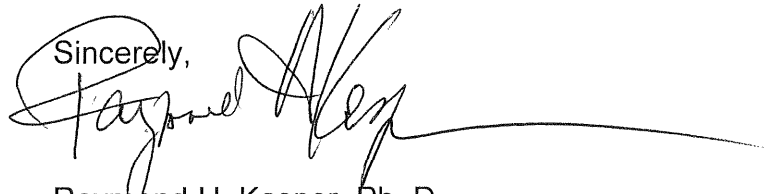
Dear Mr. Flowers:

The Department has reviewed and approved your Chapter 793 Regional Plan for Technology for the 2008-09 school year. The following points are offered:

- Section 1: Five Year Summary
 - ✓ The WNYRIC uses a broad based representation from district staff, WNYRIC staff, superintendents, instructional leaders, user group meetings and surveys about service delivery to determine the regional needs.
- Section 2: The Regional Planning Process
 - ✓ Using the planning process outlined in Section 1 of this planning document the WNYRIC has identified 11 major objectives which it strives to accomplish in the coming year. These objectives align with the 7710 Co-ser as well as the 6360 Co-ser. Some of these objectives align with the statewide objectives of other RIC's across the state.
- Section 3: Current Context
 - ✓ The WNYRIC has identified three broad based principals that they feel all districts need to move forward technologically to improve instruction and provide efficient management support to districts. They have identified the need to continue to integrate technology and best practices into the classroom, provide effective management system tools and have an efficient robust infrastructure to support all initiatives.
 - ✓ This Section clearly explains in a summary narrative format the importance of the three underlying principals of their strategic objective. This summary allows an individual to understand the need for the identified objective. This Section is very well documented, comprehensive and supports the identified objectives.

- Section 4: Implementation Plan
 - ✓ The implementation Section is comprehensive, well documented and will serve as a tool to manage the implementation of the stated objective. It clearly identifies a timeline for the objective, who is responsible for the objective and the criteria that will determine whether the objective has been accomplished.
 - ✓ The reviewer found not only this Section but the entire document comprehensive, clearly articulated and will serve as a tool to evaluate the progress on the stated regional objectives.
- Section 5: Evaluation
 - ✓ This Section states what was accomplished from the prior year but it does not clearly align with the stated objectives from last year. A suggestion would be that next year you use the charted information presented in Section 4 - Implementation to report out the outcomes. As stated previously in this document many of the outcomes are ongoing and should be so stated.
 - ✓ It is appropriate to report out accomplishments other than the stated objectives from the previous year since a RIC is such a dynamic organization.
- Sections 6, 7 and 8
 - ✓ These sections meet the criteria for the 793 planning document.

I hope these comments have been helpful. Thank you for all of your regional planning efforts.

Sincerely,

Raymond H. Kesper, Ph. D.

c: D. Ogilvie
R. Guiffreda
C. Godshall